2. The Employment Assurance Schemes (EAS) will provide assured employment to the rural poor in 1752 identified Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) Blocks in the country of which 223 Blocks are in 23 Districts of Madhya Pradesh as per list given in Annexure are covered under this [*See* Appendix CLXIX, Annexure No. 6]. In this scheme those who are in need and seeking employment in rural areas will get assured wage employment for 100 days during the lean agricultural season. Expenditure under the Programme will be shared by the Centre and the States in the ratio of 80:20. The Ministry of Rural Developuent has already released Rs. 5 lakh per block under the scheme during the current financial year.

Report of the Committee of National Development Council

371. SHRI VIREN J SHAH :
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have examined the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee of National Development Council (NDC) on austerity ;

(b) if so, what are the details of the recommendations which have been accepted by Government; and

(c) what action have so far been taken on each of them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) to (c) After consideration of the recommendations, it was decided to take necessary follow-up measures required for decision, awaiting consideration by the N.D.C.

The measures related to the recommendation of the Committee to contain non-plan expenditure and mobilise additional resources, in order to protect the financing of Eighth Five Year Plan 1992—97 outlay. The report of the Committee was discussed by the NDC in its meeting held on April 5, 1993. The NDC directed in this meeting that (1) Planning Commission could hold wider consultations on the recommendations with political parties and Trade Unions; and (2) set-up a Committee on Power.

Action on these has been completed. The conclusions of the discussions by the Planning Commission with political parties and Trade Unions were submitted to the NDC in its meeting held on September 18, 1993. The Report of the Committee on Power is awaited.

Pending final view on the recommendations, Central Government have been emphasising the need for mobilising resources and containing. non-plan expenditure, particularly in the Annual Plan discussions with the Central Ministries and the States.

Unemployment Problem in the Country

372. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN : Will the MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have initiated any action to solve the unemployment problem in the country in general and in Gujarat and Maharashtra in particular;

(b) if so, the details of the programmes formulated and launched by Government to provide employment in the current year state-wise; and

(c) what funds are being allocated for these programmes during the Eighth Five Year Plan, state-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) to (c) Employment is a thrust area of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992—97). Accordingly, a growth strategy for accelerated employment generation through faster growth of sectors, sub-sectors and areas with relatively high employment potential is envisaged. Employment in Gujarat and in Maharashtra or in any State depends on